The Anvil is published February, May, August, November
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A Message from our First Lady, Delores Hodges...

“What are you really worried about?”

We waste time worrying about things that never happen. We stay awake at night and play a scenario in our imagination of what will happen over and over until we are worn out. It spoils tomorrow before tomorrow arrives. Worry makes you forget who’s in charge. Take the focus off of yourself and put the focus on God. You must ask God to capture every thought and bring all your thoughts in obedience to Him. God said “take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself.” Matt. 6:34.
It’s a New Year and we need to make a pledge to ourselves we will stop worrying and learn to pray and give thanks in all things. To reap a different crop, we must sow a different seed. Don’t plant worry, doubt and fear. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding”.

Stop worrying about when this pandemic will be over. God will heal the land in his own time.

Sow good seeds in the meantime of hope and love.

- Delores Hodges

**Lay Organization News**

The St. Paul AME Lay Organization, of Raleigh, NC, is comprised of the laity (non-clergy) of the church. It operates on all levels of the church: local church, conference, district and connectional levels. The local activities include A.M.E. training at monthly meetings, coordinating the local effort for AME-V Alert, which includes A.M.E Public Service Announcements, and sponsoring Voter Education Webinars.

The LAY ORGANIZATION has resumed monthly meetings 1st Mondays, at 6:30 p.m. Via St. Paul’s Zoom Room  www.zoom.us or call 929-205-6099

ID: 9199190001 Access: 518051

Annual Dues are $20

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**Message from St. Paul AME Lay President Carol Davenport**

Hello, My Sisters and Brothers in Christ. It is my pleasure to bring greetings from the Lay Organization and welcome you to 2021 in the Precious Name of Jesus.

2020 was a year full of grief, sickness, chaos and turmoil. We all witnessed racial tension, deep oppression, and political battles. It is easy to say that 2020 was the most divisive, polarizing year that many of us have ever experienced. All I can say is “BUT GOD.” Entering into this new year was like a breath of fresh air, exciting with high expectations. I noticed this same attitude with other people around and even on TV.
It seems as though more people are smiling, happier, and more hopeful about the future. The verse, Jeremiah 29:11, seems to explain it all:

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

As Christians facing difficult situations today, we did and can take comfort in knowing that we have a promise from God, that He has a plan for our lives regardless of our current situation. He can and will work through our trials to prosper us and give us hope. Whatever we face, claim the strength of the Lord and put our best foot forward. Remind ourselves that Christ is with us, and He is sufficient for all things – then never look back. Look to Jesus and go forward.

St. Paul Church Family, your Lay Organization is going forward into this new year. We are organizing and making plans to use our God given talents to work with God to help improve His kingdom. We invite you to join us so you too can help in creating happiness, peace, and harmony among God’s people.

Love and Blessings to All,

Carol Davenport, President

YPD

“Growing, Glowing and Going for Christ”

The YPD performs community service at the Food Bank and delivers food to Seniors. They meet on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Upcoming youth training programs and opportunities for leadership experiences will be announced. Please contact Mrs. Lola Houston Hager, YPD Director for more information. She can be reached at 704.305.9101 or by email at lyhousto@yahoo.com

Visit our Community Billboard for updates on St. Paul AME events and other event of community interest
The Addie G. Stroud Missionary Society continues to be good busy in 2021…

We completed our "Taking to the Streets" project. We passed out 100 toiletry and lunch bags to those who are battling homelessness in the Wake County area. A special thanks to Biscuitville, BJ's and Farmers Market for providing 100 biscuits, a $75.00 gift card and apples. A huge thank you to Sister Cheryl and Brother Elvin Taylor, Sister Lola and Brother Danny Hager, Sister Estella Williams, Sister Kim Gooden, Sister Tina Clements, Sister Paulette Leaven, Sister Carol and Tommy Scott, Sister Flo Avery, YPDers, Aaliyah Martin and Houston Hooker for all your help today. Everyone we gifted with a bag was very appreciative. This is what mission work looks like! – Faye Hooker, President
**Featured Recipe**

From Healthy Immunity Recipes

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**Pork Suppa**

Low-Calorie, Egg Free, Gluten-Free, Nut-Free, High Calcium, Soy-Free, Bone Health, Healthy Aging, Healthy Immunity

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1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

In a large skillet cook pork, onion and garlic over medium heat until meat is browned and onion is tender; drain off fat. Return meat mixture to skillet; add oregano, salt and crushed red pepper. Cook for 1 minute more. Transfer to a 3-1/2- or 4-quart slow cooker. Add broth and potatoes.

Cover and cook on low-heat setting for 6 to 8 hours or on high-heat setting for 3 to 4 hours (see Tip). If using low-heat setting, turn to high-heat setting. In a small bowl combine evaporated milk and cornstarch until smooth; stir into cooker. Stir in kale. Cover and cook for 30 to 60 minutes more or until bubbly around edge of cooker. If desired, sprinkle with additional crushed red pepper. Easy-peasy!

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**BIBLE Knowledge** contributed by Cecilia Johnson

THE FIRST FAMILY

1. What was Adam’s occupation while he lived in Eden?

2. Why was Eve called “woman”?

3. Who first tasted the forbidden fruit in Eden?

4. What did God place at the garden’s east entrance to prevent the first family’s return?

5. Cain’s occupation was __________, and Abel was a__________.
6. How did Cain respond when God inquired, “Where is Abel thy brother?”

7. What son of Adam and Eve did Eve regard as a replacement for Abel?

8. What penalty did God promise anyone who killed Cain?

9. Which son of Cain had a city named for him?

10. “For as in Adam all die, even so in ______ shall all be made alive.”

Preparedness Pop Up!
Click on image to download the Ready.gov 2021 Preparedness Calendar to your iPhone or Android.

Plan a family Zoom meeting up to twice a year to review/update family safety and emergency communications planning. You’ll be glad you did!

Remember, “Live by faith, for today. Prepare, by faith, for tomorrow.” – Pam Kelly

CLICK HERE for current testing locations

COVID19 – VACCINE UPDATE!!
Health Care Workers or persons 65 years or over are eligible to receive immunization

- Call Wake County Health Department 919-250-1515 or sign up online at https://covid19.wakegov.com/vaccine/
- or Call UNC Healthcare 1-984-215-5485 or sign up at www.yourshot.org

Did you know the Moderna vaccine was developed by African American research scientist?

“Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, left, senior research fellow and scientific lead for coronavirus vaccines and immunopathogenesis team in the Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory, talks with President Donald Trump (not pictured) as he tours the Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. Photo: Evan Vucci (AP)” – courtesy of The Root
Upcoming…

FEBRUARY
10, 17, 24  Lent Presentation: “The Good News” News
11-12   2nd District Founder’s Day
14   Heritage/Founders’ Day
21   Youth Led Worship Service
27   Black History Presentation

MARCH
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Lent Presentation: “The Good News” News
14   Youth Led Worship Service
21   Missionary Day Worship

APRIL
1   Maundy Thursday Worship Service
2   Good Friday
4   Easter
11   Youth Led Worship
29-30   WNCC Annual Conference

ANSWERS to Bible Knowledge on Page 5

1. Gardener (Genesis 2:15)
2. She was taken out of man (Genesis 2:23)
3. Eve (Genesis 3:6)
4. Cherubims and a flaming sword (Genesis 3:24)
5. Farmer, shepherd (Genesis 4:2)
6. “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (Genesis 4:9)
7. Seth (Genesis 4:25)
8. Sevenfold vengeance (Genesis 4:15)
9. Enoch (Genesis 4:17)
10. Christ (1 Corinthians 15:22)
Stay safe, well, and blessed! Our next issue is in May!